



**National Park Service**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

Congaree National Park

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## Congaree News Release

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### NatureFest 2008 – A Weekend Celebration!

Congaree National Park will host NatureFest 2008 on Saturday, April 19 and Sunday, April 20, 2008 – a celebration for the whole family! South Carolina naturalists, scientists, educators and Congaree National Park rangers will provide a variety of presentations and walks during this weekend event. Special programs include evening Owl Prowls, half-day canoe trips, daytime and nighttime astronomy with the Midlands Astronomy Club (weather permitting), live raptor educational demonstrations, owl pellet dissection workshops, and a program on primitive tools by Tom Mancke. Other scheduled events include a big tree walk, wilderness hike, hands-on demonstrations, displays, and walks highlighting native and invasive plants, wildland fire, bats, butterflies, crayfish, dragonflies, plants, snakes, spiders, and fish! Programs are free of charge, with daytime events running from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM on both Saturday and Sunday, and evening programs on Friday, April 18 and Saturday, April 19 from 8:30 PM to 10:30 PM. Guided walks will last 1 ½ hours and presentations will last 1 hour. Owl Prowls and guided canoe trips require advance registration.

Please make sure to bring water, insect repellent, and wear appropriate footwear if attending a walk/hike. A full schedule of events for NatureFest 2008 is available at the Harry Hampton Visitor Center at Congaree National Park, and online [www.nps.gov/cong](http://www.nps.gov/cong). All walks and talks will leave from the Harry Hampton visitor center, and special instructions will be given to those attending the canoe trips. Free parking is available at Congaree National Park, with a free shuttle running on Saturday from 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, and Sunday from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM to overflow parking areas.

NatureFest 2008 celebrates National Park Week, Congaree's observance of Earth Day, National Junior Ranger Day, and National Environmental Education Week. Come explore Congaree National Park and help us celebrate! For more information and schedule of events, or to register for the Owl Prowls and canoe trips, please call (803) 776-4396 or visit [www.nps.gov/cong](http://www.nps.gov/cong).

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